

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGRE-00 EB-08 COME-00 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00
OMB-01 /039 W
-----281640Z 009078 /44
R 281355Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5590

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PASS USDA/FAS/US-USSR SECRETARIAT

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, UR
SUBJECT: AG.ATT. MEETING WITH AG. DEPUTY MIN. RUNOV

1. SUMMARY: AGATTACHES TRICK/BEEGHLY RECENTLY MET WITH DEPUTY MINISTER RUNOV. SUBJECT COVERAGE WAS BROAD; TONE OF ONE AND ONE-HALF HOUR MEETIN WAS FRIENDLY AND OPEN. RUNOV RAISED NO MAJOR PROBLEMS; OFFERED TO ASSIST AGATT OFFICE TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS AND SUGGESTED POSTPONEMENT OF AG.COOPERATION AGREEMENT WORKING GROUP SESSIONS IN JUNE, IF DESIRED BY US SIDE. POINTS DISCUSSED ARE SUMMARIZED BELOW. END SUMMARY.

2. TRICK TRANSMITTED TO RUNOV SEC. BERGLAND'S LETTER OF MARCH 7 TO MESYATS AND GAVE RUNOV A REPORT ON THE RECENT MEETING BETWEEN SEC. BERGLAND AND AMB. DOBRYNIN.

3. TRICK REQUESTED MIN. AG. ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING MFA PERMISSION FOR AGATTACHE OFFICE TRAVEL TO VIEW CROP CONDITIONS, AS WE ADVISED WOULD BE DONE IN MOSCOW 3248. IN RECAPING OUR TRAVEL FOR THIS PURPOSE, MENTION WAS MADE OF OUR DESIRE THIS YEAR TO TRAVEL T THE NEW LANDS. RUNOV, RATHER SURPRISINGLY, AND PROBABLY OVER-OPTIMISTICALLY, VOLUNTEERED PERSONAL

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ASSISTANCE IN THE EVENT THE USSR-US SECRETARIAT WAS UNABLE TO SOLVE ANY OF OUR TRAVEL PROBLEMS.

4. RUNOV ASKED IF, IN OUR OPINION, THE US-USSR AG. AGREEMENT WAS IN ANY JEOPARDY UNDER THE NEW ADMINISTRATION. WE REPLIED THAT SEC. BERGLAND HAD ALREADY INDICATED TO MR. DOBRYNIN HIS GENERALLY FAVORABLE POSITION ON THE AGREE-

MENT. RUNOV WAS ALSO MOST INTERESTED IN KNOWING WHO WOULD BE HIS OPPOSITE NUMBER, THE JOINT CHAIRMAN OF THE AMERICAN SIDE, AND LEADERS OF THE US WORKING GROUPS. WE INDICATED THAT ALL APPOINTMENTS WERE NOT YET CONFIRMED, BUT RESPONDED AS FULLY AS POSSIBLE.

5. THIS MEETING WAS REQUESTED BY TRICK, SAYING THAT HIS INTEREST IN VISITING WITH RUNOV WAS IN A BROAD-RANGING, FRANK OVERVIEW-TYPE DISCUSSION ON US-USSR AGREEMENT OPERATIONS AND PROBLEMS. AFTER RUNOV QUERIED ABOUT US DESIRE TO CONTINUE AGREEMENT, TRICK ALSO STATED THAT, IN HIS PERSONAL OPINION, THOUGH AGREEMENT EXPERIENCE ON THE WHOLE HAD BEEN SATISFACTORY FOR THE US SIDE, IMPROVEMENT WAS, NEVERTHELESS, NECESSARY -- AS HE ASSUMED WAS THE CASE FOR THE SOVIETS. HE MENTIONED SPECIFICALLY THAT THE AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIC INFORMATION, WHICH WE HAVE OBTAINED UNDER THE AGREEMENT, GENERALLY IS UNSATISFACTORY FROM QUANTITATIVE, QUALITATIVE AND TIME-LINESS STANDPOINTS. FURTHER, THAT THESE AGREEMENT OBJECTIVES WERE, IN HIS VIEW, PARAMOUNT TO THE US SIDE.

6. RUNOV WAS NOT TOO ORGANIZED IN HIS STATEMENT OF INADEQUACIES OF AGREEMENT RESULTS TO THE SOVIETS TO DATE, BUT TOUCHED ON THE FOLLOWING: (A) TOO MANY TEAMS AND NOT ENOUGH CONCRETE RESEARCH COOPERATION; (B) THE TENDENCY OF US SIDE TO RELATE ACTIVITIES TO MARKETING OF US COMMODITIES; (C) HIS STRONG DESIRE OF A SHOWPIECE, DEMONSTRATION-TYPE, JOINT US-USSR SPONSORED PROJECT IN THE SOVIET UNION. CONTRARY TO PAST, HE WAS LESS SPECIFIC. PRE-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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VIOUSLY, HE USUALLY MENTIONED A FEED GRAIN PRODUCTION MODEL FARM; AND (D) US FEED GRAINS COUNCIL OVERALL AGREEMENT WITH MIN. AG. WAS MENTIONED, BUT RUNOV GAVE NO INDICATION OF HIS VALUE JUDGEMENT AS TO THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH AN AGREEMENT.

7. THE DEPUTY MINISTER TOWARD THE END OF THE MEETING OFFERED TO POSTPONE THE JUNE WORKING GROUP MEETINGS IF, IN THE OPINION OF THE AMERICAN SIDE, JUNE WAS CONSIDERED TOO EARLY FOR FORWARD PROGRESS TO BE MADE. HE ASKED TRICK'S OPINION ON THIS. AGATT REPLIED THAT HE WAS NOT SUFFICIENTLY INFORMED ON WASHINGTON TRANSITION TO COMMENT, BUT HE WOULD BE GLAD TO REQUEST USDA CONSIDERATION OF THE QUESTION.

8. COMMENT: RUNOV WAS CLARLY BEING VERY ACCOMMODATING. THIS WAS FREQUENTLY NOT THE CASE IN MOSCOW IN 1976. HE GAVE DEFINITE IMPRESSION THAT CONTINUING AND STRENGTHENING AGREEMENT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO SOVIETS. WASHINGTON

RESPONSE NEEDED TO HIS INQUIRY ON POSTPONEMENT OF WORKING
GROUP MEETINGS. RECOMMEND ALSO THAT WE BE CABLED TO
NOTIFY OFFICIALLY SOVIET SECRETARIAT FOR AGREEMENT WHEN
NEW US JOINT COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRMAN IS DESIGNATED. SUGEST,
HOWEVER, THAT LETTER FROM HIM TO RUNOV BE DELAYED AT
LEAST WEEK OR SO AFTER NOTIFICATION.
TOON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETINGS, AGRICULTURAL AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MOSCOW04110
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770106-0060
Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770316/aaaaanid.tel
Line Count: 123
Litigation Code IDs:
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Message ID: 1c6ea1b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2977737
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AG.ATT. MEETING WITH AG. DEPUTY MIN. RUNOV
TAGS: EAGR, UR, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1c6ea1b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009